

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/961,049

Examiner

George Eng

Applicant(s)

BURRUS, PHILIP H.

Art Unit

2643

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/17/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-8,11 and 12.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 24 September 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).


* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 9/24/2001
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.


GEORGE ENG
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. Claims 1, 3-8, 11 and 12 are allowed.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant's invention is drawn to a method of identifying a cable having a universal connector on one end and a device specific connector on the other end, thereby providing lower cost that offers a broader spectrum of identification and is easily incorporated into semiconductor devices, which allows a user to carry a single power supply or universal base unit with multiple cables as opposed to having to transport a different accessory for each electronic device (i.e. a universal base unit having a plurality of cables, each corresponding to a unique electronic host device, wherein the cable includes a capacitor having a value corresponding to a particular electronic host device and the capacitor is coupled in series with a resistor to ground in the universal base unit, and a unique mating connector for coupling to the electronic host device, so that the universal base unit identifies the cable by actuating a step function across the capacitor-resistor network, causing an exponentially decaying waveform to determine the identity of the cable or host device).

Applicant's independent claim 1 and 11 each recite, *inter alia*, an intelligent accessory system for identifying a particular electronic device with a structure as defined in the specification (pages 11-16) including a universal base unit having a control circuit including at least one input and at least one output and a resistor electrically coupled to at least one input, and an interface device having both a first connector capable of mechanically and electrically

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coupling to the universal base unit and a second connector capable of mechanically and electrically coupling to at least one first electronic device, the interface device further comprising a capacitor with a value predetermined to correspond to the at least one first electronic device, a comparator electrically coupled in series between the resistor and the control circuit, wherein the capacitor and the resistor are electrically coupled in series when the interface device is coupled to the universal base unit, and wherein the control circuit applies a voltage to the capacitor and measures an exponential voltage decay across the resistor to identify the at least one first electronic device. Applicant's independent claims 1 and 11 comprise a particular combination of elements, which is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art.

Applicant's independent claim 12 recites, *inter alia*, providing a universal base unit having a microprocessor, a resistance means coupled electrically to the microprocessor, the universal base unit further comprising a universal connector, providing an interface means having a capacitor corresponding to a first electronic device, the interface means further comprising a universal mating connector and a connector of accommodating the first electronic device, closing a switch to apply a step function voltage across the capacitor, sensing an exponential voltage decay across the resistor, calculating a time corresponding to the exponential voltage decay across the resistor, associating a set of accommodating parameters associated with the first electronic device based upon the time corresponding to the exponential voltage decay across the resistor. These steps, in combination of the remaining steps, are neither taught nor suggested by the prior art.

Accordingly, Applicant's claims are allowed for these reasons and for the reasons recited by Applicant in Amendments filed 8/24/2004 and Appeal Brief filed 12/17/2004.

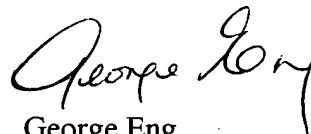
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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to George Eng whose telephone number is 703-308-9555. The examiner can normally be reached on Tue-Fri 7:30 AM-6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis A. Kuntz can be reached on 703-305-4708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



George Eng
Primary Examiner
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